

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-05 DLOS-04 ACDA-05 IO-10

/103 W

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R 291153Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3131

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CE, MX

SUBJ: VISIT OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT

REF: MEXICO 6020

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT OF MEXICO PAID SHORT AND NOT  
VERY EXCITING VISIT TO SRI LANKA JULY 24-25 AS PART  
OF HIS CURRENT TOUR OF THIRD WORLD. ECONOMIC ISSUES  
WERE MOST PROMINENT WITH BILATERAL CINNAMON TRADE  
PROBLEM STRESSED. BOTH SIDES AGREE THAT NEW INTERNA-  
TIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (NIEO) SHOULD BE BASED ON CHARTER  
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OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES (CERDS).

ECHEVERRIA APPRECIATES MRS. BANDARANAIKE'S INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE PROPOSAL AND SHE CONGRATULATED HIM FOR HIS UNIVERSITY AND INSTITUTE OF THIRD WORLD IN PRESS CONFERENCE, ECHEVERRIA DENIED HE IS RUNNING FOR UN SECRETARY GENERAL JOB BUT INSISTED POST SHOULD GO TO THIRD WORLD. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA CONTINUED HIS WHISTLE-STOP TOUR THROUGH THIRD WORLD WITH NINETEEN-HOUR PAUSE IN COLOMBO JULY 24-25. HE MUST HAVE FOUND SRI LANKA SOMEWHAT TRYING AS HE ARRIVED ON HOT, MUGGY AFTERNOON, EXPERIENCED LONG BUMPY RIDE FROM AIRPORT ON ROAD WHICH IS IN SHAMBLES AS RESULT RECONSTRUCTION FOR NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT NEXT YEAR, FOUND ROUTE SPARSELY LINED WITH UNENTHUSIASTIC BYSTANDERS AND LEFT FOLLOWING MORNING IN DRIVING RAINSTORM.

3. COMMUNIQUE STRESSED ECONOMIC MATTERS INCLUDING INCREASED TRADE BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. MEXICAN AMBASSADOR (WHO IS RESIDENT IN NEW DELHI) TOLD US TRADE PROBLEM CENTERS ON CEYLONSE CINNAMON EXPORT TO MEXICO. HE SAID MEXICO NORMALLY TAKES MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF SRI LANKA'S CINNAMON EXPORTS BUT THERE HAD BEEN ONGOING PROBLEMS ATTRIBUTED TO MEXICAN SPECULATORS WHICH HAD COMPLICATED NORMAL TRADE RELATIONSHIP. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA HAD ORDERED THE AMB, UNDER-SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN TRADE TO STAY BEHIND, ALONG WITH SOME TRADE EXPERTS AND CINNAMON IMPORTERS, UNTIL THEY RESOLVE PROBLEM SATISFACTORILY.

4. ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, ECHEVERRIA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MRS BANDARANAIKE'S DECLARATION OF INDIAN OCEAN AS ZONE OF PEACE AND BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN WITH LACK OF PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING ITS OBJECTIVE. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER DETERIORATION OF ECONOMIC POSITION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SHARED VIEW THAT NIEO SHOULD BE BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF CERDS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5. PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE CONGRATULATED ECHEVERRIA FOR HIS UNIVERSITY AND INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES OF THIRD WORLD WHICH IS BEING ESTABLISHED IN MEXICO. SHE ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR HIS INTEREST IN NON-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES AND HIS DECISION TO SEND OBSERVER DELEGATION TO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT.

6. DURING PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 24, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA DENIED HE HAD SAID HE WOULD RUN FOR UN SECRETARY GENERAL. HE SAID HE DID FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT HIS POSITION SHOULD GO TO SOMEBODY FROM THIRD WORLD AS UN WAS FORUM WHERE INTERESTS OF THIRD WORLD WERE PRESERVED. EXHEVERRIA TALKED AROUND QUESTIONS ASKED ABOUT CIA, EVENTS IN INDIA AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S MILWAUKEE SPEECH.

7. PRESIDENT EXCHEVERRIA'S STOP HERE WAS ESSENTIALLY RETURN VISIT FOR MRS BANDARANAIKE'S JUNE 17-18 STATE VISIT TO MEXICO CITY. IT WAS ALSO GESTURE TO RECOGNIZE FACT THAT MRS BANDARANA-NAIKE WILL HOST NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT NEXT YEAR. ALTHOUGH TRADE MATTERS WERE STRESSED AND PERSONS LEFT BEHIND MAY BE COMMERCIAL MISSION MENTIONED IN MEXICO'S A-277, DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES MAKES ANY SUDDEN INCREASE IN TRADE UNLIKELY. LANGUAGE OF COMMUNIQUE AND TONE OF ECHEVERRIA'S REMARKS WERE RELATIVELY MODERATE, PERHAPS REFLECTING MRS BANDARANAIKE'S CURRENT APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.  
VAN HOLLEN

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## Message Attributes

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